droughts, irrigation facilities, availability of good quality of seeds & other inputs impact agriculture production & productivity.

(c) As per available information, the number of samples of fertilizers and insecticides found non standard during last two years are:-

Year	Fertilizer	Insecticides
2005-06	6728	2100
2006-07	4345	1405

(d) Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985 ensures that fertilizer which meet the standards of quality laid down in the Order are produced and sold to the farmers. Similarly, the quality and sale of pesticides and insecticides are regulated under the provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968. The State Governments/UTs are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against those found indulged in production & sale of non standard fertilizer under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985/Essential Commodities Act, 1955/Insecticides Act, 1968. To ensure that the farmers get the standard quality of inputs, States have been advised to regularly check the quality of fertilizers & insecticides.

NATPs recommendations on agricultural research

9. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agricultural Technology Project of World Bank has given any recommendations to help Indian agricultural research by making it more responsive to the technology needs at the grassroots; and

(b) if so, how the farming systems in the disadvantaged rain fed regions like Vidarbha where a large number of farmers are resorting to suicides due to poverty level being high especially in districts like Yavatmal would get the intended benefits and relief invisaged in NATP through sustainable use of natural resources land and water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The farming systems in the districts like Yavatmal would get the benefits of technological and other complimentary interventions through sustainable use of natural resources, land and water by soil analysis, introduction of improved/new field/horticultural crops promotion of medicinal plants cultivation, forestry trees, fodder cultivation, use of integrated pest management & use of integrated nutrient management practices and promotion of post-harvest management practices.

Guidelines on NATP

10. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether detailed guidelines have been issued on the recommendations made in the World Bank aided National Agricultural Technology Project, completed in June, 2006 costing US$ 249 Millions;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any specialized agency has been created which would help the poor marginal farmers to derive maximum intended advantages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Based on the recommendations of National Agricultural Technology Project on agricultural research, detailed guidelines have been issued for implementation of National Agricultural Innovation Project.

(b) The guidelines are contained in the publications: project implementation plan and financial management manual.

(c) Under one of the important components of National Agricultural Innovation Project, namely Research on Sustainable Rural Livelihood Security (SRLS), consortia are being formed who are developing projects which will help the poor/marginal farmers to derive maximum intended advantages.

Committee on bringing reform in agriculture

11. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers get around 30 per cent portion of the final price of agricultural product and the remaining 70 per cent portion is received by middlemen brokers and stockist agents;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to constitute a high level committee to bring about reform in agriculture and economic sectors related thereto; and

(c) if so, by when the report of this committee is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The share of farmers in final price of agricultural products depends upon the types of marketing channels followed in sales by the farmers. Studies conducted by the Department of Agriculture indicate that the share of farmers varies from 62% to 84% in rice and wheat, from 67% to 85% in pulses, 59% to 89% in groundnut oil and 33% to 75% in case of fruit and vegetables.

(b) and (c) To examine the problems facing Indian agriculture and to suggest Action Plans, National Development Council (NDC) Sub-Committee on Agricultural Related Issues was constituted by the NDC in June 2005. The Sub-Committee had constituted various Working Groups covering areas such as Region/Crop Specific Productivity Analysis; Irrigation and Minor Irrigation; Dryland/Rainfed Farming, Marketing Reforms etc. In the 53rd meeting of the NDC held on 29th May, 2007, the Report of the Sub-Committee was considered by the NDC and it was resolved to undertake the required steps by the Central and State Governments.

Special plan for Wheat, Rice and Pulses

12. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to implement a special plan for wheat, rice and pulses at its own expenses;